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## PATENT APPLICATION

### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Attorney Docket No: Q77100

Davide FERLA, *et al.*

Appln. No.: 10/678,270

Group Art Unit: 3661

Confirmation No.: 3457

Examiner: McDieunel Marc

Filed: October 6, 2003

For: A SYSTEM FOR PROGRAMMING ROBOTS OR SIMILAR AUTOMATIC APPARATUSES, COMPRISING A PORTABLE PROGRAMMING TERMINAL

#### **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT** **UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants hereby notify the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, except for the following: U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent publications; and co-pending non-provisional U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier), and therefore

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

**U.S. Appln. No.: 10/678,270**

**Attorney Docket Q77100**

**January 5, 2006**

Applicant is filing concurrently herewith a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e). No fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicants enclose herewith a copy of a Search Report from the European Patent Office in a counterpart application citing such documents, together with an English-language version (if not already included) of at least that portion of the Search Report indicating the degree of relevance found by the European Patent Office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicants do not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,



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WASHINGTON OFFICE

**23373**

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: January 5, 2006



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**STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The undersigned hereby states, upon information and belief:

That each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith was first cited in a Search Report from the European Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of said Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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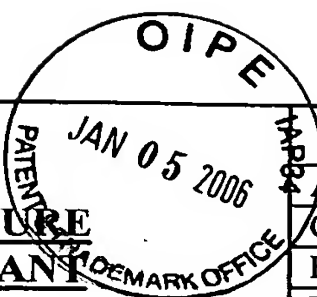
Date: January 5, 2006

Substitute for Form 1449 A &amp; B/PTO

Complete if Known

# **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)



Sheet	1	of	1	Application Number	10/678,270
				Confirmation Number	3457
				Filing Date	October 6, 2003
				First Named Inventor	Davide FERLA
				Art Unit	3661
				Examiner Name	McDieunel Marc
				Attorney Docket Number	Q77100

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		
		US 5,617,515		04/01/1997	MacLaren <i>et al.</i>
		US 4,888,708		12/19/1989	Brantmark <i>et al.</i>

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)			
		EP	0 974 884	A2	01/26/2000	Fanuc Ltd.	
		EP	0 792 726	A1	09/03/1997	Fanuc Ltd.	
		JP	11 04 2580		02/16/1999	Nippon Telgr & Teleph Corp.	
		DE	199 51 233	A1	05/31/2000	Tripols-Union Formenbau GmbH	
		EP	0 310 958	A1	04/12/1989	Hitachi, Ltd.	

## NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>6</sup>

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov), MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.